

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 04006 091053Z

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 FAA-00 DOTE-00 /034 W

----- 022971

R 090850Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2830

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

UNCLAS KATHMANDU 4006

MANILA FOR USADB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UEXP NP RP

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: TRIBHUVAN AIRPORT

REF: STATE 210682 (NOTAL)

1. SERVICES PERFORMED BY DIWI LIMITED TO SCOPE OF WORK EMBRACED BY PREVIOUS ADB LOAN (26-NEP). NEW PROJECT AS DESCRIBED BY ADB CIRCULAR NO. 117/75 WILL ENTAIL NEW COMPETITIVE SELECTION OF CONSULTANT IN ACCORD WITH STANDARD ADB GUIDELINES. ACCORDING TO GON DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION G. P. SHARMA, TERMINAL DESIGN DONE BY DIWI UNDER EARLIER PROJECT WAS NOT COMPREHENSIVE; HENCE THE REQUIREMENT FOR ADDITIONAL TERMINAL DESIGN WORK IN THE NEW PROJECT.

2. U. S. FIRM AIRWAYS ENGINEERING (WASHINGTON, D.C.) WAS SUBCONTRACTOR TO DIWI FOR PREVIOUS WORK. SHARMA DOES NOT SEEM PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF EITHER DIWI OR AIRWAYS ENGINEERING, INDICATING ON THE ONE HAND A NEED FOR AIRWAYS TO "TRY HARDER" IF THEY HAVE A CONTINUED INTEREST IN WORK HERE, AND ON THE OTHER HAND A WIDE-OPEN FIELD FOR U.S. CONSULTANTS.

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3. ON THE CONSTRUCTION SIDE, REHABILITATION OF EXISTING

KATHMANDU RUNWAY WILL CALL FOR RATHER MORE SOPHISTICATED TECHNIQUES THAN THOSE PREVIOUSLY EMPLOYED IN NEPAL. WHILE PROJECT WILL BE RATHER SMALL AT BEST, IN CASE THIS ADDED COMPLEXITY SHOULD OFFER SOME PROSPECT FOR U.S. CONSTRUCTION FIRMS, FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE APPROACH ENVISAGED BY CAD: UTILIZING RECENTLY COMPLETED EXTENSION FROM 6,600 TO 10,000 FEET, ABOUT 6,600 FEET WILL STILL BE AVAILABLE FOR FLIGHT OPERATIONS WHILE THE FIRST HALF OF THE OLD STRIP IS RENOVATED. WITH THE TWO ENDS THUS TAKEN CARE OF, THE MIDDLE SECTION WILL BE RENOVATED AT NIGHT, LEAVING THE AREA OPEN TO FLIGHT OPERATIONS DURING THE DAY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE.

4. PROJECT SHOULD BE TENDERED ABOUT ONE YEAR FROM NOW.

5. FOR JIDDA: PLEASE PASS TO REISACKER AT AIRWAYS ENGINEERING AND ADVISE WHETHER JIDDA OFFICE OF AIRWAYS CONTINUES TO HAVE INTEREST IN DEVELOPMENTS HERE.
CARGO

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KATHMA04006
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750311-0521
From: KATHMANDU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750971/aaaacksk.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 210682
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellEO
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <29 JAN 2004 by RowellEO>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAJOR PROJECT: TRIBHUVAN AIRPORT
TAGS: BEXP, NP, RP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006